

**DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**ABC TO SHUT DOWN S.J. BARS FOR DRUG DEALING**

**San Jose** – The California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control is expected to revoke or suspend the liquor licenses of two San Jose nightclubs for sales of drugs and other violations of the ABC Act.

The pending administrative action is the result for an undercover operation that led to the arrest of six persons last Friday (March 28, 2003) at the Cazadores Bar, 1621 Almaden Avenue, and the El Cerrito Bar, 1948 Alum Rock Avenue, both in San Jose.

Investigators from ABC's Special Operations Unit, ABC's San Jose District Office, and officers of the San Jose Police Department's Vice Unit arrested four people for sales of narcotics, another person for being under the influence of narcotics, and cited two minors in possession of alcoholic beverages and remaining in a place where minors are not allowed.

The investigators/officers also confiscated \$1,000 in counterfeit \$100 dollar bills. The U.S. Secret Service will be notified regarding the counterfeit currency.

ABC's San Jose District Office is expected to take administrative action to suspend or revoke the liquor licenses of the two locations. In one of the bars, there may be a false ownership, which is also a serious violation of the ABC Act.

Both of the nightclubs had been serious law enforcement problems for the San Jose Police Department, with the Cazadores Bar being an extreme drain on resources for disorderly activity such as fights, public drunkenness and other criminal activity.

Owners of the bars will be notified within the next few weeks of the pending action against the licenses.

ABC is a Department of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, which is under the direction of Secretary Maria Contreras-Sweet, a member of the Governor's Cabinet.